

U.S. GREAT LAKES MERCHANT SEAMAN EMPLOYMENT FACT SHEET

Updated January 2005

The focus of this Fact Sheet is with mariner employment on U.S.-flag, Great Lakes' commercial vessels. Some vessel operators on the Lakes directly employ unlicensed seamen. Other companies are required by union contract to hire unlicensed seamen only from union sources. Deep sea-licensed engineers can use their license on the Great Lakes, but deck officers without Great Lakes' pilotage certification can only navigate in open waters. All commercial vessel employment requires a Merchant Mariner Document.

OFFICERS

American Maritime Officers 419-255-3940 800-221-9395 (excluding Ohio)
www.amo-union.org

Int'l Org. of Masters, Mates, & Pilots 216-776-1667 877-667-5527 (headquarters)
www.bridgedeck.org

Marine Engineers Beneficial Assoc. 216-579-6362 www.dlmeba.org

COMPANIES CONDUCTING DIRECT HIRING

Central Marine Logistics	219-922-2644	www.centralmarinelogistics.com
Grand River Navigation	440-930-2024	web - none
Great Lakes Fleet	218-723-2413	www.gltx.com
Interlake Steamship Co.	800-327-3855 x7140	www.interlake-steamship.com
ISG Burns Harbor	219-787-3709	web - none
Lake Express Ferry/Hornblower Marine	812-941-9993	www.lake-express.com
Lake Michigan Car Ferry	231-845-5555	www.ssbadger.com
Oglebay Norton Marine Services	888-889-3636	www.oglebaynorton.com

UNIONS

Seafarers International Union/NMU www.seafarers.org 810-794-4988 (Algonac, MI)
218-722-4110 (Duluth, MN) 815-723-8002 (Joliet, IL)

United Steelworkers 440-243-7000 800-247-4384 (excluding Ohio)

LICENSING/MERCHANT MARINER DOCUMENT

US Coast Guard Regional Examination Center - Toledo, OH 419-418-6000
www.uscg.mil/d9/www/mso/toledo/rec.html

MARITIME ADMINISTRATION'S WEB ASSISTANCE

A Career Afloat www.marad.dot.gov/acareerafloat
Employment & Labor-Management Affiliations Guides www.marad.dot.gov/Publications/emmgltab.htm
Mariner Information www.marad.dot.gov/mariners

SUPPLEMENTAL WEB SITES

GL Maritime Academy – www.nmc.edu/glma	NOAA (weather, charting) - www.noaa.gov
Great Lakes' news – www.boatnerd.com	Passenger Vessel Assoc.- www.passengervessel.com
Int'l Shipmasters' Assoc. - www.shipmaster.org	Seaway - www.greatlakes-seaway.com
Lake Carriers' Assoc. – www.lcaships.com	Training – www.star-center.com